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# THE LAST WEST



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THE AUTHOR AND HIS TWO FAMOUS CHARACTERS  
"RUBE" AND "THE COLONEL."



"Colonel," said I, "Pretty big wheat field that!"

"Yes Rube, big enough for 'Little Bobs' to manoeuvre a good sized army, eh?"

# The Last West

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BY

ANSON A. GARD

Author of "My Friend Bill," "The Yankee in Quebec," "Uncle Sam in Quebec,"  
"The Wandering Yankee," "How to see Montreal," "The New Canada,"  
"The Hub and the Spokes" or "Ottawa of Today," "The Pioneers of the  
Upper Ottawa" and "The Humors of the Valley," "Ottawa the Beautiful,"  
Etc., Etc., Etc.

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*Entered according to Act of Parliament of Canada,  
in the year one thousand nine hundred and six,  
by Anson A. Gard, at the Department of Agriculture.*

## Introduction.

**T**HIS volume is the first of a series of books to be written on the cities and larger towns of the North West of Canada, beginning at Winnipeg and running to the Coast, and to be distributed throughout the English reading world. It is the purpose to touch upon every part of that Coming Land and to tell of it in a manner as to attract every reader into whose hands the volume falls—knowing full well that if the wonderful advantages there offered are made known, they cannot but benefit the Country and reader.

It is my purpose to meet and know the pioneers of that Country, and from them learn of the early days, before the rail and wire brought them into close touch with the rest of the world.

In few lands are found veins of gold and precious stones, but in every community beneath the sun there are to be found rich veins of humor and "Rube" and "The Colonel" will run across some of those veins, in order that while you wade through the facts you may find occasional resting places.

It is proposed to issue up to one million copies of these booklets—May I ask your assistance in their distribution.—THE AUTHOR:

## DEDICATED

To the Builders of that vast Empire  
whose present prosperity is the  
world's wonder and whose future no  
man knoweth.

## THE LAST WEST

"Colonel," said I one day in the late summer, "we've been wasting our time in the effete east. Let's pull up and go west. Everybody says 'Go west if you would see the real Canada,' and I'm going to take their advice."

"Do you know, Rube, I've just been waiting for you to come to your senses. And so, me boy, you are at last growing wise. 'Tis well. I am ready the minute you say the word." And from that we have set about getting matters arranged. We have been five years in Canada and have grown so attached to the provinces of Quebec and Ontario that it is like breaking up home to become real emigrants.

### RUBE GROWS RETROSPECTIVE—QUEBEC.

When once a man begins to think of going away from a place where he has seen so much of joy and so much of hardship he finds a something holding him back—a subtle something he cannot analyze. We had come to dear old Quebec in the early summer of 1901. We came to a foreign land with no conception of what it was like, and were surprised to find that people walked, talked and lived, just like they did down home.

### CAME PREPARED FOR WINTER TO GET ROASTED BY THE HEAT.

We had come prepared for snowshoeing, tobogganing, and other winter sports, and then got roasted with-the heat. It was like starting for the other place and landing in a sort of a Heaven. And I do

often wonder if I can enjoy Heaven much more than I did those months we spent in the dear old walled city! Even now, as I sit and think of that summer, with nothing in the world to do but loaf around among the hills that surround the old town—to hunt around for sights once so familiar to generations of history makers, my heart fairly bubbles with joy. Not a day we did not find something new to interest us, in or about the old town! Then the people! Ah shall we ever forget the LeMoines, the Fairchilds, the Parents, the Gregorys, the Prices, the Henrys, the Chambers, the Stewarts, the—but why enumerate when all seem now so dear to memory. Then the Lakes—ah

### THE LAKES.

the Lakes—never again do I hope to find more of real heart joy than the days spent with Philip and George, touring the hundreds of them, in the Lake Edward country, when we went out to hunt moose and caribou, and came back with nothing but a store of enjoyment that will last as long as memory holds true!

### MONTREAL.

Next we came to Montreal—that metropolis which is growing so fast that one might think of it as a new city, instead of one whose history dates back far beyond most of our own old cities. It has so much of interest to the tourist and hunter after the rare that it took two books to barely touch upon what may be found within its borders. Here is the Canadian home of

### “THE FIRST CITIZEN OF THE EMPIRE,”

which fact alone would place Montreal in a proud position. Nor need I name him of whom the Duke of Argyle said: “No man of Can-

ada, ever did so much, as a private citizen, for the making of the Dominion into a Nation"—and the Duke might have left out: "As a private citizen." Others have done great things for their party, but no one has done so much for his country as this Scotchman from Morayshire! Nor will the good end when he is gone for he is planning for that good to go on through time! Say, I do love to write about some men!

Three years ago we came to Ottawa,

"THE WASHINGTON OF CANADA," or "THE BEAUTIFUL CAPITAL,"

and have spent much of that time in trying to let the world know what is missed in not seeing it.

Tourists come to Canada and after seeing Toronto, Montreal and Quebec, go back home and boast of having "done" the whole country. Those cities are full of interest, but until Ottawa has been visited, the tourist should not boast. The famous world traveller, Peter MacQueen, whose tours have extended what would equal ten trips around the world, said of a visit which he has just made, as the Chaplain of the Fifth Massachusetts Regiment, who went home this (August 21, 1906) morning, after a three days' sojourn, as guests of the Forty-Third Regiment: "I have never enjoyed any visit so much," and his words were heartily seconded by the "Six Hundred" officers and men. I have seen entertainers before, but the boys of the Forty-Third, under Colonel S. Maynard Rogers, could give them all a whole lot of points. This is why that Ottawa is becoming the Mecca of Conventions, and the tourists, too, are finding it out. Its Commission driveway, alone is worth coming thousands of miles to see, and they have but begun the beautifying of an already beautiful city. Then the tours that

may be made from the Capital, are so many and so interesting that it took a whole volume to tell of them.

## RUBE WRITES A BOOK ON SOUTH HULL AND AYLMER.

Having spent the years among the cities, we thought to see and know the people of the country, and went out to the cradle of civilization in the Ottawa Valley—to the west of the city, just across the Ottawa River. There we found a people so wholly generous, that we spent a year among them. That year we wrote a book about them. They may not have deserved such a fate, but it was our feeble way of trying to manifest our appreciation of their kindness. Often were we carried back—in memory—to dear old Quebec—yea even to Virginia, where hospitality has reached its highest form. Every home was open to us, and we were made to feel so welcome that to think of that year is a sweet memory. And now to go away, to say good-bye to these dear people, is indeed like leaving home, mayhap forever. But we must, for

## "THE LAST WEST"

is calling us. "The Last West," for in the world all others are gone. From the first dawn, man has ever migrated toward the setting sun. Country after country was filled from the east—peopled and deserted, for lands beyond, and westward. It was not alone the desire to discover a new country that Columbus sailed away, but like the instinct of the bee he was compelled to do it, that new homes might be founded for the crowded nations.

The Last West has been reached. We of the United States used to think that our millions of rich acres could never be taken up, but yet in a short generation we have watched the myriads from beyond

the seas, come, in all sorts of steam and sailing craft, asking for a home in our far lands of the west, until it is now nearly all taken up by them. Even the Great American Desert, by irrigation, is fast losing its aridity, and becoming the Garden of America.

The restless spirit, which has driven the peoples of the world from the old into the new, will soon cease its potency—cease, like an Alexander, weeping, for more worlds to conquer—cease, for the talismanic “Westward Ho!” is shouted vainly.

The millions from the old world who come to our shores will soon seek in vain for free homes. Our prodigality of land must end—not from a desire to exclude the willing worker, but from necessity. In the past generation, we have grown and spread to, and to the very limit, beyond the Mississippi, until there is little left of what we once thought could never become the dwelling place of man.

We look over the map of a generation ago, and contrast it with one of to-day. The spotless areas of the one is dotted by the myriads of villages, towns and cities of the other, connected by thousands of miles of iron rails, while the villages and towns of the older parts have grown into cities that rival the Babylons of the Old World.

### “WHERE SHALL WE GO?”

“Where shall we go?” has ever been the question of the intending home seeker. The question has become: “Where can we go?” Until within a very short while the eye of the immigrant was cast toward Uncle Sam’s rich domain, and the good old man stood, with open arms, waiting to welcome the peoples of all lands. They were received and home sites selected for them, and in a very short while they were members of our family—each striving to do his part toward building up

one of the mightiest nations of modern times. That time is passing—Uncle Sam don't run down to the dock any more to do the arm-extending act, and the immigrant has to go up to the office and wait his turn.

### YOUNG CANADA A GENEROUS HOST.

But, like the good old boniface that he is, he says to the waiting guest: "My house is full, but my good neighbor Young Canada, across the way, is just starting up and he's got lots of room and a welcome for you. He is so anxious for you that he will take you in, and give you a whole room to yourself. Why, some say he'll even give you the room. A whole lot of my people are going across to stop with him. But this neighbor is such a good sort and so rich that I don't mind at all their going. I did this myself when I was starting up. I was so anxious for you people to stop with me that I took you all in. But I can't do it any more. No I hain't got any place for you, unless you double up with the regulars. There's the

### ROOMS ALL FULL.

East room's been full for a long time, the South room is jammed, the North rooms are crowded to the doors, while the West part of the house—that part I thought I never could fill up—it's so big—is just crowded to the walls, with the teeming thousands from every part of the world.

"Say, take the advice of an old man who has had lots of experience. Don't fool around and waste any time hunting for any Wests. There's only one left, and my good neighbor, Young Canada, has got that. It's the very last one and if you don't get in pretty quick, you're going to get a small room in the back part of the house,

for everybody is rushing in to get the choice rooms. Get in quick young man. You've waited so long that before you know it there won't be a back room left." This may be thought too generous of old Uncle, and even I—one of his boys—may be called to task for writing in praise of another land. What's the odds. The world is fast becoming one big family with thin partitions between, and if I can see the best place for members of this great family to go, where it may grow up to better advantage than to remain cramped at home, I'm going to do it. The Colonel and I have been reading up, on that vast Empire out there, and if it proves what we look upon it from this distance to be, then we're going to do a whole lot of advising—we are going to call to the brawny sons and fair daughters of all lands to "Come to the Last West." If that call brings the sons and daughters of my own land, it will be a pleasure to feel, that I have aided them in getting their part of the gifts which Young Canada is just now so lavishly throwing about to the wise who come within his borders.

### CANADA AND ITS DISCOVERIES.

Canada is so new—though it be so old—that few of the rest of the world know anything of it beyond the bare name. Cabot was first to see its eastern border; five years after (1497) Columbus discovered the

continent. Three years later Cortereal came up into the Gulf of St. Lawrence; in 1518 Baron de Lery visited Sable Island; and six years later (1524) Verrazano explored the Atlantic Coast of Nova Scotia. Not, however, until Jacques Cartier came over in 1534 was anything of importance gained, nor was his first visit of note. He came back the next year and from then must date the real discovery of Canada. He anchored in a small bay to which he gave the name of St. Lawrence, in honor of the Saint of that day—August 10, 1535. The name was afterwards extended to the Gulf and the River. On September 14, Cartier came up to Stadacona (Quebec), and October 2, he reached Hochelaga (Montreal). He came again to Canada in 1540. He must have remained a year, at that visit, for we find that his men sowed turnip seed near Cape Diamond in 1541.

The Sieur de Roberval appears next. He with his party spent the winter of 1542-43 at Cap Rouge, a few miles up the river from Quebec. It was about this time that on Ulpius's globe is found that the country appeared as "Nova Gallia." Many names have been given to this Northland. Sir Francis Drake, in 1579, gave it the name of "New Albion."

Other names that appear among the discoverers of the sixteenth century are; Diego Homen, whose map showed the Bay of Fundy for the first time (1558); Martin Frobisher, who made a voyage of discovery to Arctic Canada in 1576-7-8; John Davis, who discovered Davis' Straits in 1585; and in 1592 Juan de Fuca discovered the Straits named for himself.

The first trading company in Canada was Dupont-Grave and Chauvin of Harfleur, in 1598.

It was on June 23, 1603, that appeared upon the scene the greatest man of all—Samuel Champlain. Of him Sulte, the famous historian,

says: "He was mariner, geographer, engineer, draughtsman, a great reader, a clear writer, a military man, which made of him a man of accuracy. He was everything that went to make him the ideal discoverer and developer of a new country. It was Champlain who first pointed out the possibilities of what will be the Georgian Bay Canal. He founded Quebec in 1608. The word is Indian: "Kebec," a strait.

This not being a history, but a running summary of some of the early men, who figured largely in the dawn of this country, I must skip the doings of such as Henry Hudson, Brule', Baffin, De Sillery, Laval, La Salle—one of the greatest of all—and a host of others, whose history is well worthy deep study. To those who look upon

### CANADA A LAND WITH A PAST.

Canada as a land without a past, I cannot urge too strongly their reading of the men, and the work they have accomplished in laying the foundation of what one day is destined to become a mighty Nation. Much of its upbuilding is more thrilling than stories in fiction. It is of the present that I would tell—the present, or the immediate past. Only within a few years have the people of their own country begun to realize the vastness of their possessions. Fifty years ago but little was known of other than the edges of the west and that but by the traders and trappers alone. Where now are a half million or more people there were then but 8,000 in all of that vast country. Thirty-five years ago (1871) surveys were begun for a railway (Canadian Pacific) that now traverses the continent, and which, with its branches, extends nearly 10,000 miles, and growing, each twelve-month, faster than the ordinary citizen can follow. In that year, Winnipeg—the wonder of the century—was but an Indian Post—it is now nearing 100,000 of the most enterprising people to be found upon the western hemisphere.

## HERCULEAN STRIDES OF THE MIGHTY WEST.

If we were to read in fiction of a land that has grown as has grown that country beyond the western limit of Ontario, we would mark the writer as one with a Jules Verne imagination, and a Ouïda in descriptive powers. The boy just reaching manhood can almost remember hearing vague stories told by the traveller, who sat 'round the corner grocery store giving his experiences out there in the vast wilderness where few men had been and where little evidence marked their presence. In this wilderness of the seventies—yea even in the late eighties—there now dwell a people who have dotted the prairies with villages, towns and cities that would indicate the work of generations. Where the eye never found a resting object, are now growing millions of trees, set by the enterprising farmer seconded by a Government who's one aim is to surpass anything of the kind in the history of the world. And yet they tell us that work has scarce begun, that the land is so illimitable that where are but a few hundred thousand there is room for millions of people, and that without the crowding of the older countries.

## LITTLE KNOWN COUNTRY.

How few there be of the outside world, who know anything of this mighty empire to the north of the United States! My own con-

ception of it—before coming to see it—was that it was a barren waste, where everything was snowed up for the greater part of the year, and the rest of the twelve-month the people existed as best they could. I never thought that it was a land where “milk and honey” did much “flowing,” and if we may believe the seemingly well vouched stories, even yet the Mother Country has the same notions of this, her largest daughter.

I wonder if I have the power of convincing, sufficient to have you, of other lands, see this beautiful and marvellously fertile country as I have found it? Were I a native born you would look upon my words as prejudiced in favor of my home. Do not so judge my story of this Northland, for I write with the honest mind of one who came with all prejudice against Canada. No, not that. I gave it no thought, one way or the other, save that it was a country marked yellow and red on the map, but of the places on the map, they were simply spots with a name. I will be honest and admit that I was nearly as ignorant as the woman who wrote from England to a friend of mine in Ottawa. “I have a friend,” she began, “living out around Winnipeg or Vancouver, I forget which, but I wish you would call on him. His name is ———. I’m sure he will be pleased to meet you if you tell him you are a friend of mine.” My friend Jack has not as yet called. In the “Tight little Island” they have no conception of distance. For the edification of those who may have friends in this country let me say a word about

#### DISTANCES IN CANADA.

It is 3,662 miles wide (counted by the C.P.R. line) and 1,400 miles from north to south. The distance from Halifax to Vancouver (3,662 miles) is greater than from London to Halifax. From Montreal to Winnipeg is 1,422 miles. That same Ottawa friend told me that on

the ship in which he came over there was a passenger who had saved but 65 cents to carry him all that distance. He thought that the two cities were close together. From Winnipeg to Vancouver is 1,482 miles, making of Winnipeg practically the center of the distance.

### COAST LINES.

But for staggering distances, try to get a conception of the coast lines of Canada. It has 13,000 miles, and of this, one province—British Columbia—alone has thousands of miles.

### RUBE TALKS TO THE CHILDREN—RIVERS.

I once made a tour of the schools of the United States, asking fifty questions about Canada. One of the questions was: "How many navigable rivers has Canada?" There was but a single answer: "The St. Lawrence." Nor did any of the children know that a steamer could go 2,384 miles via that river and the lakes, from the mouth of the St. Lawrence to the head of Lake Superior. Few had heard of the Mackenzie and none of them ever dreamed that with its large tributaries this mighty stream is navigable for 2,500 miles, and from its mouth to the mouth of the St. Lawrence 6,000 miles, with but a portage of 150 miles. As to the Ottawa, the Red, the Saskatchewan, the Saguenay, and many others, they scarcely knew them by name.

## COMPARATIVE AREA OF THE PROVINCES.

When I told them of the magnitude of the Canadian provinces they could scarcely grasp the extent of some of them, nor for that matter can the larger children realize how great are some of these countries. Who would think of Manitoba being nearly as large as England, Wales and Scotland combined, and when as densely populated as those countries must hold a population of 23,506,000? It would take more than a child mind to realize that either Alberta or Saskatchewan (253,000 and 251,000 square miles, respectively), is nearly three times as large as those three combined, and either is as large as France and Switzerland, with Scotland thrown in for good measure. One of the greatest nations of the world is the German Empire, which we look upon as vast in extent by reason of its greatness, and yet Alberta is as large as the whole Empire with the state of Ohio, Delaware and Rhode Island, and still enough more, to make you or I fabulously rich if we owned it. And if Alberta were as densely populated as Germany there would be in that province 68,057,000 people. But when I told those schools that British Columbia was larger than all of the United States from the Mississippi River to the Atlantic Ocean, and from Chicago to Tennessee (leaving out Virginia), even the teachers would have had a commission placed over me as a bit "off," had they not set to figuring, with *The Encyclopedia Americana* before them.

I would here add, as though parenthetically to the reader, that few realize the vast possibilities of Canada, when it comes to space. Here is an illustration that is marvelous as an instance. Switzerland with 15,992 square miles of mountainous country (not nearly so large as some of the counties of Canada) has more than half as large a population as this vast Northland. Having led up, gently, to what will seem appalling beyond the conception of the ordinary mind, I shall ask you to try to grasp this instance: Belgium, with 11,373 square

miles (a little spot of land less than 114 miles long by 100 miles wide—not so much as the square of the distance between Montreal and Ottawa) has a population 1,316,336 greater than the whole of the Canadian Dominion. I'm going to let you figure out what Manitoba, and the three other western provinces might hold if equally populated—all of the four having a superior grain soil and with mineral resources beyond the wildest dreams of a Belgian! I'm going to let you work that out, lest you set me down as figure daft! But to return to that school tour. After the teachers got their Encyclopedias before them I had no more questioning of my statements. I had their attention, and went on telling them a whole lot more about this too little known neighbor.

### A FEW OF THE LOT.

"Canada has an area of 3,745,574 square miles, and in 1901 had a population of 5,371,315. (It now has a little over 6,000,000). It has seven provinces and nine territories (since that, Alberta and Saskatchewan have been made provinces.)

"It has 2,397,167,292 acres of land, of which (were I still Irish I'd say) 80,483,222 acres are water. It is a great lake country, it has so many lakes that in some places they haven't room for them on the land, and have stuck them right into the rivers. The Ottawa, for instance, might be described as a chain of lakes connected by water. Many of the lakes of Canada are surpassingly beautiful and abound with fish, making it a very Paradise for the lovers of the rod and reel." Say, I had those children just wild to see this wonderland. Not even the teachers knew a thing about Lake St. John, in the province of Quebec (that was before I took the ten schoolmams on the tour, described in my "The Wandering Yankee," and were amazed when told

of the great rivers that flow into this lake, and which if placed end to end would extend a third of the way across the continent.

## RAILWAYS.

Only a few of the travelled ones knew of other than the Canadian Pacific Railway. When I asked "How many railroads has Canada?" one little girl said: "Two; and I was on both of them."

"What are they?" I asked.

"The Canadian Pacific and the Quebec and Lake St. John, and they're awful nice," said she. I told them to listen while I'd tell them about the vast progress made in railroad building in Canada.

"Canada has a large number of railroads, or as the Canadians call them, railways. Nearly 20,000 miles of them, and getting ready to build a whole lot more thousands of miles. You see, children, their country is developing so fast that they are compelled to build them; why, in a very few years, they will have 50,000 miles of railways. They will have to have them to keep pace with the mighty progress of their country."

In one of the schools, the Principal and teachers became so interested that I had to "stay in after school" to tell of things which the children could not so well have understood.

## FOREIGN POPULATION.

"What proportion of the Dominion are foreign?" asked the Principal. (My answers were given for that date, and culled from the 1901 records.)

"British Columbia—of the provinces—has the largest, 26 per cent; while Prince Edward Island has the smallest, 0.83 per cent; Manitoba, 15.75 per cent; Ontario, 3.07 per cent; Quebec, 2.50 per cent; New Brunswick, 2.05 per cent; Nova Scotia, 1.37 per cent. Then of the unorganized territories, 19.13 per cent; and the North-west Territories, 30.83 per cent."

"What proportion become naturalized?"

"58.38 per cent become Canadian citizens. This per cent would be much larger but for the fact that so many have come too recently to have taken out citizenship papers. The immigration just now under the indomitable W. D. Scott is very large, since the world is finding out that Canada has more sunshine than snow, as much freedom as a Republic, and that millions of acres of land of unequalled richness are only waiting—a free gift—for the men willing to better their condition, by coming to occupy these waiting acres."

### EDUCATIONAL ADVANTAGES OF CANADA.

The Principal wanted to know: "What is Canada doing for education?"

"Everything possible." And just here I could not help becoming a bit sarcastic. "It is not content with teaching Canada alone, but even, that there are other countries in the world besides the one they live in, with the result that the children of the schools know almost as much of the United States as do the children of the States know of their own country. One province is said to have the best Public School System in the world. Some of the provinces pay well, others very little towards schools. Manitoba pays \$28.50 per family for education, while Quebec pays but \$7.12 per family." When I told them that the minimum salary of a Quebec teacher was \$275 (I've

since learned that some teach a year for as low as \$150), and the maximum \$440, they could scarce believe it possible. This one fact hurt the whole Dominion, in their estimation.

(I have since learned, from a report made by a committee of the Maine Pedagogical Association, that that state is quite as "economical" as its neighbor across the line, and that one-half of the women teachers receive less than \$200 a year. Shame! and again shame on any state or province that would treat the dear girls so badly! And the Colonel, the ladies man of the firm, is even more emphatic.)

### WOODLAND.

"We have heard that Canada is all 'woods.' What are the facts?"

"If by 'woods' you mean forests, it is not, by any means; but if you refer to woodland, including forests and lands where trees are found, I can give you the percentage of such lands. British Columbia leads with 80 per cent; New Brunswick, 52.90 per cent; Quebec, 51.22 per cent; Ontario, 46.31 per cent; Manitoba, 36.50 per cent; Nova Scotia, 30.40 per cent, while the North-west Territories have 33.64 per cent. Of the valuable pine forests, Ontario leads, and here the 'limits' are the most valuable, but the way the forests are melting away, it will not be long until General Roberts can find no end of 'manoeuvring' space."

### CANADA A CHEESE EXPORTER.

"It is true that Canada is becoming a great cheese exporter?" asked the teacher from up New York state.

"Not becoming; but long since become. We put a duty on their hay and they kept it at home and fed it to their cows, then proceeded to lead us in cheese-making. In 36 years, from 1868, the United

States exported \$307,751,085 worth of cheese, while in 35 years, Canada has exported \$319,360,000 worth. In 1891 Canada produced 108 million pounds, and in 1901, 220 million pounds." (Since that the increase is still keeping up.)

### PROPORTION OF LAND UNDER CULTIVATION.


"Is much of the land under cultivation?" asked the teacher who had recently left the farm.

"Very little so far. Here is the percentage in the provinces:—  
British Columbia, 0.20 per cent; Manitoba, 9.70 per cent; Ontario, 9.40 per cent; Quebec, 3.40 per cent; New Brunswick, 8.00 per cent; Nova Scotia, 9.30 per cent; and Prince Edward Island, 52.00 per cent. Manitoba, which is producing so many millions of bushels of wheat, has but 10 per cent of its 71,000,000 acres under cultivation."

The gratification of that tour, aside from the real pleasure it gave me to meet the thousands of children, was to know the interest my effort had made them take in Canada, proof of which were the hundreds of letters they wrote me on my return to this country. I had offered prizes, in the various schools, for the best letters on Canada, and was delighted to see how much reading the dear children had done. Some of the letters were most comprehensive on the Dominion, and its resources, and later many of the children induced their parents to visit Canada, "and take us along."

### ICE PALACES IN SUMMER.

Some of the letters I received from these dear children would indicate that they were fully ignorant of Canada as their fathers and neighbors. One little girl grew very flowery in picturing an Ice



Palace which she saw in her mind, built there by the stories she had read. She said of it: "Oh, how delightful it must be in old Quebec to go down to Dominion Square (which is in Montreal) of a summer afternoon and watch the sun play on the ice palace, throwing myriads of diamonds from its glistening walls. Oh, dear! Don't I wish I could see it!" She wasn't a whit more ignorant than an English boy, almost a young man, who had just landed in Montreal. I met him wandering along (it was summer) in regular stranger-in-the-city style, and thinking to do him a turn asked: "Stranger?" "Yehs, an would you do me the favah, dontcherknow, to diwect me to the ice palace I've been reading about." I told him that I was sorry but that it had been put in cold storage, just a day or two before, and he was awful sorry, "doncherknow, as I've hud so much habout the blooming thing."

#### DENSE IGNORANCE ABOUT THINGS CANADIAN.

No one living in Canada can imagine the dense ignorance about this country that prevails all thro-out the world. In New York city, where one would imagine that they would at least know the geography of Canada, not one in ten have the slightest conception of what this country is like. This has been one of the incentives that has kept me at work for the past five years to teach my cōuntrymen about the land of this big neighbor of ours.

Within the past year or two the increased travel from the States has done much to enlighten the well-to-do who travel. An Ohio lady, very rich, who has travelled all over the States and Europe, was surprised when told of the beauty to be seen in Canada. "Is it like you tell?" she asked. "It is indeed, and I have not begun to tell of it. I have but touched a very small part of it. The vast country to the west I have never seen," and I told her things I had heard of that land of magnificent distances. "Why," she exclaimed, "I never

thought that there was anything worth seeing up there. I must see it." Since then, she, with a large party, has toured the country and was so gratified that she now wants two copies of my "next." Pardon this personal, but I give it to illustrate the point, that even my own people are quite as ignorant as are the people of England.

The one thing that seems to be a universal impression is that Canada is cold. Even the boys from Boston—boys of the 5th Mass., who have just gone home came up prepared for winter weather, and—well the man whoever says "Cold Canada" to any of the Fifth is going to get into trouble. Say, it was almost scorching hot while they were here—round 90 and one day above, and they loaded down with heavy blankets. I tried to get a photograph of them but 'twas that hot the rubber film sizzled and was clean spoiled—melted, or well I didn't get the photograph. "Cold Canada!" Forget it, and never come up here wearing anything heavier than gauze—if it's summer. If you do you'll think that you have skipped a whole lot of time and landed into—well no matter it's real warm up here—in summer.

### TO GET BACK TO THE SUBJECT I WOULD TALK TO A LARGER CLASS.

I fain would talk to a larger class, and if I could but get you fastened up in a room, as I had those poor innocent children, I would like to tell you so much about this marvellous country, that the bare facts would make you wonder at its being possible for them to exist without your having heard of them before! And even yet after your hearing of them you might be like a Cincinnati, Ohio, friend who asked: "Where would you advise me to invest?" I replied at once and told him to put all the money he could raise, in a certain western village in "The Last West." Had he taken my advice he would to-

day be a very rich man, as that village is now one of the cities of Canada, with a prospect of reaching a population of enormous magnitude. Although that was but three years ago, when he could have purchased lots for a few hundred dollars each, those lots to-day are selling for as high as \$800 and \$900 a front foot. This to the man who still looks upon Canada as a wilderness—as some do—seems but a “fairy tale,” and yet the fact exists. In that marvelous country there will be hundreds of places where money may be invested which would bring returns that will satisfy a Monti Christo. New railways are to be built along which will become very gold mines for investment. It is the purpose of the Colonel and I to go out and find those places for you. We shall find them and point them out.

## RUBE AND THE COLONEL GETTING READY FOR THE WEST.

In anticipation of this tour, throughout the vast empire, we have made of it a careful study, culling the facts from every possible source, until to go upon the ground will seem but to be upon familiar soil. This fact or rather this statement is questioned by a man who has

### HIS STORY WOULD MELT ICE.

just returned from that country. “Rube,” says he, “you don’t know anything about it. I thought I knew the country, before I went out,

as I'd read everything I could find on the subject, from the prosey railroad folders to the real estate dealers' lurid pen-work. I had stacks of pictures, and one would think that to look at photographs would be to get a true notion of the things pictured. Not so. That which is making of "The Last West" the mighty country that it is destined to be, has never been pictured. No camera has yet been invented that can take that picture—if picture it may be called. Listen, Rube. That which is making the Last West—forcing it to the very front among the countries of the world, is nothing that has been written or pictured. It is, Rube,

### THE INVISIBLE SPIRIT OF ITS PEOPLE,

and you have to go right among them and feel it, to know what it is. The very air is so permeated with the spirit of progress that those people would make a desert blossom like a rose and turn a wilderness into a garden. And when we think that instead of a desert they have a land that is richer in soil of grain-producing value than any in the world, and so conditioned that they have but to plow, sow and reap, we cannot wonder at the spirit that is driving them forward!

"It is strange, but in all that vast empire the lethargy of the East is nowhere to be found. Go into any section of the country and you will find the people so filled with push and enterprise, and so loyal to their village, town or city, that in some places it is almost worth your life to say that you had seen another that surpassed their home choice. This spirit of excelling is what is building waterworks, stringing trolley wires, building school houses that would be a credit to an eastern city, paving, sidewalking and treeing their streets almost as soon as the surveyor has marked the site, and then setting to work to let the world know where to find them. So rich the soil that to hold the

wheat, some of these towns along the railways, seem at a distance to be a vast collection of elevators.

"What," you ask, "has been the womb of this spirit?" If you could see, as I have seen, the beautiful homes<sup>set</sup> in vast fields of waving grain—like gems in emerald green—of men who but a few years ago found their way to that land, so poor in purse—many of them—that starvation seemed their only prospect, you would not ask the why. They started with the free gift of a generous government, and to the homestead of 160 acres have added to that until their fields touch the very horizon. Men I've met, who, in some far away land, had lost all hope of leaving to their children other than the poverty which had ever been their own condition, have, in a simple spirit of adventure, gone to that country and become rich beyond the dreams of avarice, and their sons and daughters are growing up to noble man and womanhood."

### ABSENCE OF TIMBER A BLESSING.

I could have listened on and on at his enthusiastic spirit, born of the people among whom he had so recently sojourned, but wanting to get down to the practical, I asked: "You speak of homes. How, in that land of prairies, are they to build houses, when what little timber they have is used up, and the timber of the east melting away as before a vast forest fire?"

"How?" Your question is a very natural one, and asked by all who have given the subject any thought. And yet again it is not a natural one, since we see that nature never takes without giving, and often the gift is far better than that which it has first taken. Had those people to clear their lands of timber, before being able to plant and sow, they would be as were the pioneers of Ontario, and the old

provinces, who spent their lives getting a farm in the same condition that they of the prairie find the land when first they reach it. Nature has not given them much timber with which to build, but it has stored beds of rock and clay, from which man can turn a building material, so far superior to timber, that its absence is a blessing.

### CEMENT THE COMING BUILDING MATERIAL.

"Just now is being built a cement mill, to the west of Calgary, that will turn out this building product for generations to come, as there is there a whole mountain of the richest material ready at hand, and with one of the strongest companies in the world back of the enterprise, it must become one of the great industries of that country. No, the absence of timber is not a detriment but a blessing.

### VAST BEDS OF COAL.

"Then as for heating and manufacturing purposes, there are being found rich beds of coal, all throughout that whole country, and so easily mined that it is cheaper than wood, and no sawing, and you know how we boys used to hate to saw stove-wood!

### A WALLED EMPIRE.

"A greater than a Chinese Wall might be thrown around 'The Last West' and not a soul in all the land would need for a thing not found therein, since it has every requisite for a self sustaining Nation. Fruits grow in rich abundance, grain of all kinds mature in such vast quantities that a world might be fed beyond the needs of its own people, manufactories will be built—are being built—to supply all needs of the millions who will yet dwell therein, rich pastures for the myriads of cattle and sheep to feed its people and to spare, gold and

jewel stones to adorn the nation are found in its mountains, while the scenery in mountains and glaciers would dwarf a hundred Switzerland rolled together, and even now railways are penetrating every nook and corner as fast as a Shaughnessy, a MacKenzie and Mann, a Hays or a Hill, with the most improved machinery can lay them.

### THE LAST WEST IS "IT."

I tell you, Rube, the "Last West" is "IT" and the 'wise men of all lands are finding it out." The Colonel and I just had to cry out: "Hear! Hear!" and again "Hear!" The enthusiasm of this voyageur seemed to know no bounds, and had we not been meeting his kind for the past year we could hardly have credited his stories. Great indeed must be that country, when whole districts of the East are being almost depopulated by the Western fever. It reminds us of the "Kan-

### THE KANSAS CRAZE.

sas Craze" of years ago, when so many went from the East that one night I was sitting around a camp fire, away down below Emporia, toward Wichita, when as the "Freighters," began asking: "Where are you from?" out of the number seven answered: "Ohio!" and I felt at once at home.

### MacQUEEN ON THE NATIONS' DEPENDENCE.

As this returned voyageur was telling of the resources of "The Last West," I could not but think of what Chaplain MacQueen had said in his beautiful International sermon, to the assembled thousands of citizens and soldiers, at Lansdowne Park. In speaking of the dependence one nation had upon another, he said: "No one Nation has

all of the good things necessary to life or to the full enjoyment of life. They are distributed over the world and each country is dependant upon the others. We have to go to China for our tea, Australia for wool, America for cotton and wheat, Africa for gold and diamonds, north for oil, south for silk, and so on to the end."

### THE ENTHUSIASTS ANSWER.

To this my enthusiast says: "My Walled Empire still holds firm. They'll yet grow tea in British Columbia, since the coast climate is one of the finest to be found in the world. Unrivalled wool is already growing on the backs of the sheep of the prairies, and the coast province will yet grow cotton, while as for wheat, there isn't a variety on all the globe that can hold a place alongside of "Manitoba Hard" or "Alberta Red," and when you think that it is possible to sow and reap, all within ninety days, no others can compete with the farmers of that country. Gold is being found in such a wide area that ere long Africa itself will have to look to its laurels. Inside of ten years—I predict, and mark my prediction—diamonds, to rival a Kimberly, will be found, as even now it is known that they are there. Oil in rich flowing wells is already attracting capitalists, and silk will yet be a home product in that Empire. All of the products, that Mac-Queen so charmingly enumerates, will be concentrated in that land—the fruits and flowers of all the world—the peach, the pear and the apricot from Asia, the jessamine from the East Indies, the lily and the tulip from the Levant, the tube rose from Java, the carnation and pink from India, the dahlia from the table lands of Mexico, the heliotrope from Peru, the fucha from Chili, annuals from California, shrubs from Japan, blooms from Siberia, flowers from the Cape of Good Hope, from the jungles of Brazil and bush of Australia—all will find here a welcome, and in the hands of a Saunders will in the coming years be as hardy as in their native soil.

## NOT A SELFISH RACE.

"Nor would those peoples who are pouring into that Empire from almost every land beneath the sun, become a selfish race even though isolated from the rest of the world by the Wall. That invisible spirit which is molding them into a concrete One, will so blend and temper them as a whole, that in a few generations the like of which can scarce be found in all the world. The Doukhobor fanatic will become a practical tiller of the soil and among the best in morality, the Scandinavian of the north, and the Italian of the south will blend the dark and light, while the English, the Scotch, the Irish and the French will become one in sentiment and in love of country—and that country Canada! When that time shall come it will be marked as the birth of a National Sentiment—all other lands will either be forgotten or relegated to second place."

Had I let that voyageur run on he'd have filled a whole library with the "wind" of the western prairies. The man whose attention is attracted by facts alone can simply crawl into his cyclone cellar at this portion of my book, while the lover of sentiment can sit and be fanned by the breeze.

## MINERAL RESOURCES.

A friend used to tell of an interest in a silver mine he owned in Canada. I used to try to picture to myself that mine. Had he

offered the whole of it to me I'd have turned down the offer. It was as though he had told of a gold mine he owned in the moon. I'd have grasped the situation—and the mine—as readily. It was as though he was talking of a land without an identity. Now, when all of Canada seems as near and real as Neff's farm, just on the other side of the hedge fence below the old home, it is too smile at my vague conception of this beautiful country. I speak thus, as doubtless many who read these words may look upon this land as once I looked upon it—far away, and nothing tangible after you get here. "Forget it," a land is Canada so full of all that makes greatness that I wonder that it has remained so long unknown to the adventurer, hunting for the best of this world's good. It is filled with so many kinds of valuable minerals that a visit to the Geological Museum, in Ottawa, would require a half day to simply glance over the hundreds, yea thousands of specimens, from the coast of Nova Scotia to the far off Yukon. For the man of facts I shall hurriedly run in a few by way of a change.

### GOLD.

Nearly all of the valuable minerals are found in Canada. Its production of minerals was \$60,000,000 in 1904. Of this \$16,400,000 was of gold—\$10,000,000 of it coming from the Yukon—a Gold Field of 125,000 square miles in extent. In the past 20 years Canada has produced \$600,000,000 millions worth of valuable minerals. It ranks forth as a gold producer.

The placer mines of the Yukon have produced more than any placers in the world.

To show the vast strides that Canada is making in mining as well as in all other lines, I need but mention that it has increased 600 per cent since 1886.

## NICKLE.

Only by accident was nickle discovered at Sudbury, Ontario. That was in 1882. Since that time millions of dollars worth have been produced, and the mines are the greatest in the world. The Sudbury mines have reached a depth of 1,200 feet.

## ASBESTOS.

It claims the richest and best asbestos in the world, and has it over a wide area.

## COAL.

Its coal beds extend clear across the continent, being found in Cape Breton and in British Columbia, with finds being made continually between. Its known fields cover what would make two and a half states as large as Pennsylvania, while the islands of the Arctic North are thought to be but masses of coal. The Crow's Nest coal beds are estimated to hold enough to last 5,000 years running at the rate of 4,000,000 tons a year. Oh, yes, Canada has some snow occasionally, but plenty of coal to keep warm for quite a while, so they don't need to worry.

## COPPER.

In 1904 \$5,000,000 of copper was produced, while of iron there

## IRON.

was in that year a production of \$1,250,000 worth of ore and pig.

## CORUNDUM.

It produces 85 per cent of all the corundum of the world.

## LEAD.

In 1904 it produced, of lead, \$1,637,000 worth.

## SILVER. FABULOUS COBALT. ALADIN'S LAMP A MERE CHILD'S TOY.

In 1904 it produced \$2,127,000 worth of silver. Since that time, the most wonderful, the richest, and most unique silver mines in the world have been discovered at Cobalt, Ontario, in the Temiskaming Lake district. If one half the stories about the deposits found and being found in that country be true, Aladin's lamp was a mere child's toy. Poor men went there with scarce enough to reach the place, who are now so rich that they can scarce count their wealth. Unlike any other formation, silver is being found in places which an old prospector would pass as indicative of nothing holding any ore. For this reason the most valuable mines have been discovered by the "Tenderfoot," who dug because he had no more sense, and lacking sense has turned the lack into dollars—reaching, in instances, into the fabulous. Stock companies have been formed, with the shares, at

## \$50 TURNED INTO A FORTUNE.

first placed so low, that a \$50 investment—in one case I know of—is now worth a fortune. The man of Cobalt who talks in less than seven figures is not in the running, and has to content himself with being simply a silent onlooker, around the edge of the crowd.

Cobalt is but an instance of the surprises with which one is meeting all of the time up here. If it is not silver or gold, it is how some one invested in land and before he had made the second payment he had turned it over for enough to let him go fishing and not count the time as lost.

### CANADA'S ST. LOUIS FAIR EXHIBIT.

Those who visited the St. Louis Fair doubtless remember the magnificent display of minerals at the Canadian exhibit. I'm sure you remember, if "Exhibition" Hutchison called your attention to it, as William has a way of showing Canada's resources that no one ever thinks of doing any forgetting.

Later: The rapidity of the "finds," up here, may be seen by the many discoveries made this summer. Only this morning (August 27, 1906), just as the manuscript of this book is ready for the printer, the daily papers announce a wonderful discovery of a gold deposit, in Playfair Township in New Ontario—Canada's mineral Wonderland. The samples analyzed \$8,000 to the ton. Cecil B. Smith, the Government Commissioner, says of it: "It is a remarkable find, and means that we are only yet on the threshold of the mineral wealth of that great district, and the discovery will prove a great impetus to prospecting." This discovery was made by a Lexington Kentucky prospector.

In the same paper is this, from a Toronto source: "Probably the greatest mineral discovery in the world is the latest find at the Nipissing Silver vein. It was an 800 pound nugget, which Professor W. A. Parke, of the Toronto University, who was on the spot, says will easily run 70 per cent silver."

## RUBE CONTENT WITH TELLING OF THE WONDERS.

Nobody, not on the ground, can form the slightest notion of the marvelous things doing up here in this Northland. Not a day passes but I see and hear of wonders that would have once turned me daft if I couldn't be "in," but the pleasure of telling of them is now quite as great a pleasure, as I have come to feel that there are many things that surpass mere money. But to those whose ambition is vast wealth, I know of no country in all the world that can compare with Canada, and especially those parts which so recently were unknown even to the Canadians themselves.

## WONDERFUL FUTURE FOR CANADA.

The rapidity of its advance must soon place it alongside of South Africa in gold, Peru in silver, the States in other mineral wealth, South America in grazing, and lead the world in wheat, while in manufacturing it has the water power, which, if harnessed, might move the wheels of the universe.

## AGRICULTURAL CANADA.

Not alone in mineral but in all other lines has Canada been advancing beyond the appreciation of one not in immediate and intelligent touch with the various departments. This being true it is not a wonder that the outside world has so meagre a grasp upon the real situation here in this vigorous young country.

It is an agricultural country, there being forty-five per cent of its people engaged in husbandry, producing annually nearly 300,000,000 bushels of grain of all kinds, including wheat. What is a favorable sign of the real prosperity of the land workers is that eighty-seven per cent of the farmers own their own holdings.

### WILL FURNISH GREAT BRITAIN HER WHEAT NEEDS.

All of Canada has but 63,000,000 acres in cultivation when it has, in wheat land alone 171,000,000 acres, of which but four million acres were in wheat in 1905. It makes the claim that it will soon be in a position to supply Great Britain all of the \$200,000,000 worth of wheat which that country buys yearly.

### A GREAT WHEAT FIELD.

The above claim seems a most reasonable one, for what with a wheat field 900 miles long and 300 miles wide, a whole lot of grain can be grown. Eh! In Canada the average per acre from 1895 to 1904 was 18 bushels. Forty-four bushels have been raised in Manitoba, and for those ten years its average was 21 bushels.

### WHEAT CROPS FAR NORTH OF THE UNITED STATES.

"Too cold for wheat!" Yes, I thought so too, but facts spoiled the thought. Fort Simpson is over 800 miles further north than Winnipeg, and they raised wheat up there that weighed 62 1-2 pounds to the bushel.

"Yes, but it won't last. The land will give out!" I thought so too, says I, but the fact that wheat has been grown on land around one of the trading posts, 900 miles north of the United States (at

St. Louis wheat was exhibited grown 2,000 miles north of that city), and that too for sixty years, I guess it will hold out all right, and so we both have another think coming.

"It can't be as rich in food value as that grown in a lower latitude!" One more guess for you! Canadian wheat has 10 per cent more albuminoids than the best European varieties. You may not know what an "albuminoid" is,—I didn't till I looked it up—but it's all right when eaten with bread, and Canadian wheat has a whole lot of them in every bushel of her millions of supply.

Prof. Tanner is a great English authority as an agricultural chemist and he says that the soil of Western Canada is the richest in the world.

#### LORD STRATHCONA ON THE WHEAT SITUATION.

Lord Strathcona, who knows Canada as no other man knows it, says that in ten years, these people will produce all of the wheat needed by Great Britain. If the efforts of W. D. Scott, under Minister Oliver, continue to bring wheat growers from all parts of the world, as he is now bringing them in, the prediction of this wise man will prove true and to spare. And with our own grain more and more needed at home, Canada must supply, else the Old Mother must grow hungry.

#### WHEAT EASILY RAISED.

The beauty of wheat growing in the West is that it is nearly all (some sections grow "winter" and "spring"), of the spring varieties (150 varieties were shown at St. Louis). The farmer has his land ready in the autumn, and as soon as an inch of the soil is free from frost, he begins his seeding, and, as before said, within 90 days

may begin cutting. As soon as the seed is in there is nothing more to do until the cutting, and as all of the work is done by the most improved machinery, there is but little effort expended. This is why that the poor man of 1900 is the rich man of 1906.

### CANADA'S FREE GIFT.

I might talk wheat to you by the hour, but why, when the bare facts above are all that any one should need to be shown, in the possibilities of that wonderland! And then to think that Canada is making a free gift of 160 acres of this ~~marvelously~~ rich land to any who will come to make here a home! Is it a surprise that The Last West is being taken up by the wise of the world? The surprise is that by now any of it is left. Nor will it be long, for not a day passes but train loads of home-seekers are pouring in to avail themselves of the generous gift!

### CATTLE RAISING.

If I should say that the cattle trade of the west has increased enormously, and let it go at that, you'd simply say: "He uses a very strong word." Now then try, you, and give me one that will better fit. In 1881, the cattle trade of all of the west totalled twenty-five head. In 1904 (23 years later) there were pastured 400,000 cattle and as many more horses and sheep. The better word—please! I guess that Webster hasn't made it yet. Eh?

Calgary is the center of the cattle ranching country. There must be a large number engaged in trade, as the registered brands number 20,000. Can you grasp all this? I confess, much as I like figures, that these do bother me somewhat. And to think that all of this increase has been within less than 20 years, for in 1885 the first carload came over the line, that year completed. The really great increase,

however, has come under the ministry of the Hon. Sydney Fisher, Minister of Agriculture, who has made all possible effort to build up the industry, as he has all other branches of the department, and seconded by the Minister of the Interior, Hon. Frank Oliver, the West is going ahead by leaps and bounds in every possible line.

I may add that the grazing lands of the west cover 100,000,000 acres.

### IRRIGATION.

Irrigation is reaching such a stage out there that one has to stop and quit putting down figures. Not even the people of this country realize what is being done in the way of reclaiming the waste places of the west—reclaiming and making the very best lands out of what is, or was, nothing but arid plains. In Alberta alone there are 500 miles of irrigation canals—160 of them. In the stretch of 180 miles, between Medicine Hat and Calgary, the C.P.R. are building 400 miles of canals—including branches—at a cost of \$5,000,000. This will reclaim one and a half million acres of land making it available for farming, and another like number of acres for ranching. Besides this one million acres are being reclaimed around Lethbridge. The main canals are 60 feet wide and 10 feet deep. The work being on a scale of such enormous magnitude, the price per acre, for water, will be but nominal—the value to the promoters (C.P.R.) being in the making available for farming and ranching, their millions of acres.

### CANADA'S FISHERIES.

Our people come to Canada, by the thousands, I might say, to fish and to hunt. I wonder how many of them think of this country other than from the sportsman's side of it? They will tell you: "One of the greatest fishing resorts in the world!" Here's the other

side—the practical side. In 1904 these good people up here sold \$23,000,000 worth, besides letting our own sportsmen spend \$5,000,000 to take back home \$1,000 worth of trout and tell about the “big fellows” that got away just before “landing ‘em”. Yes, Canada is a great place to fish. 100,000 men are employed in the cod and salmon fisheries. Cod comes first and salmon second in value. The Columbia and Fraser rivers, not to mention other British Columbia streams and coasts are possibly the greatest salmon resorts in the world.

## LUMBER AND TIMBER INDUSTRIES.

Our Congressmen thought that they were doing a wise thing by putting up the tariff so high that they'd keep out the Canadian with his load of lumber. Why, bless their little hearts, it was the making of the Canadian lumberman! Of course our own benefited, but all the rest of our people had to pay the enhanced price, and now when the forests of the States have been melting away till few are left for the increased needs, we are compelled to ask of “My Dear Mr. Cannuck, do please let us have some of your stock, ‘Price?’ Oh, hang the price, we’ve got to have it!” and wise Mr. Cannuck is now asking enough to make up for lost time, and we’re paying it too. Who was benefited? ‘The dear people?’ Guess again! Oh no, the man who built a house a barn or needed a bit of lumber for any purpose, paid the price. In the meantime our neighbor’s forests have been growing in value, until today the word “Lumberman”, here in Canada, is only

another term for "Millionaire". And so swift the change that from "shirt sleeves" to millions is seen on every hand—and often the transition is little marked.

### RAPID ADVANCE IN PINE VALUES. RUBE ONCE A "LUMBERMAN" HIMSELF.

Pine lumber must indeed be valuable, when it is selling right here at the mills for as much as walnut—"firsts and seconds"—sold for in the late '80s. I know for at one time I sold it by the millions myself. (Once tried to corner the market—broke it in Baltimore and then swept down upon New York, and then—well, you see I've been so taken up with book writing that I haven't since that had much time to do any "sweeping" in the lumber trade. I like writing so much better than the lumber business. One don't have to bother so about money matters, and can enjoy sweet contented sleep even after your creditors threaten to sue. Oh it's a far happier condition, though at times a little inconvenient. (I beg of you to pardon this burst of confidence.)

### FROM HANDSAW TO MILLIONS—'FAIRY TALES' NOT IN IT.

I cannot better show the enormous increase in timber values, than by instancing a tract or "limit"—as timber tracts are here called—which was purchased, in 1861, for \$400 (a whole 100 square miles of it—yes \$4. a mile) and after having cut rafts of timber out of it from 1869, it sold in 1902 for \$665,000. Talk about "Fairy Tales" they're not in it with Canadian facts !

The man who bought that limit reached Ottawa, in 1857, with a handsaw—bought on time—and is now worth so many millions that he's lonesome. His holdings of timber limits would make a state and a half, as big as Connecticut and just five Rhode Islands.

## AREA OF CANADA'S TIMBER LANDS.

Canada has 280,000 square miles of timber lands fit for commercial purposes and 1,400,000 square miles more or less wooded. This would seem a whole lot, but the way it is melting into lumber and pulp will make the coming generations turn to cement for their building material.

## 100 PULP MILLS.—FOREST RESERVES.

Already there are 100 pulp mills grinding, grinding, night and day, with new ones starting every month. Canada is wisely setting aside great tracts of timber or forest reserves—20,000,000 acres of them—to protect their rivers and thereby preserve their great asset of electric power, which is destined to play so vast a part in the coming years.

"How are such vast limits acquired?" This question is asked by a man who has been reading about Teddy's Secretary of the Interior and his western work. I answer: "I don't know, but may, later on."

## GOOD LAWS, WELL ADMINISTERED IN THE WEST.

Many fear the going into a new country, lest they find there a wild and lawless class to contend with. In The Last West one is as

safe, from molestation from the lawless, as one would be in the oldest settled land.

### MOUNTED POLICE.

The Mounted Police are the best administrators of law of any body of men in all the world. They have brought about a condition that has even made the wild Indian a safe neighbor; while the "Wild West" class are given no quarter, with the result that life and property are absolutely secure.

### CHURCHES AND SCHOOLS.

All throughout that vast country churches and schools are maintained, as never before was known since time began. The present government are putting forth an energy that is nothing short of marvelous, and must result in great good to the dwellers of that mighty area!

And here just another word on the schools of Canada. It had on last count 20,000 public schools with an attendance of 1,128,532 pupils, taught by 30,000 teachers, at an expense of \$12,000,000. It has 17 universities (Great Britain has but 16 universities) and 53 colleges, with an attendance of 15,000 pupils. Result: 80 per cent of all adults can write and 85 per cent, above five years old, can read.

### MARVELOUS GROWTH OF EDUCATION IN THE WEST.

In 1886 the North-west had 76 schools—in 1902, 640, and since that time they have been opened up so fast that they don't stop to count!

## MUSICAL CANADA.

Much attention is given to music, in most parts of Canada, Montreal and Toronto having fine Conservatories, where one may get a most thorough musical training.

## BANKING IN THE WEST.

All throughout the west, every city and town—yea even many of the villages—has it bank or banks—branches of the great institutions of the east. These are growing and widening their usefulness in a manner that the layman cannot grasp. As but an instance. During the first six months of this (1906) year the bank clearings of Winnipeg totalled \$203,000,000, which is an increase of 39 per cent over the same period for last year. And parenthetically a word as to the marvelous banking system of Canada. It is claimed to be unequalled, and the almost entire absence of failures would make it seem so, if for no other reason. Its system of branches is another reason for the claim. It has 35 chartered banks with 1,100 branches, scattered, as noted above, in every nook and corner of the Dominion, and each with its parent bank, as well as the Government, behind it. As another instance of the vast strides made and making up here, just note the increase in the number of branch banks. At the time of Confederation, in 1867, there were 120 as against the 1,100 of the

present. In 1846 Canada had 17 banks with but \$6,000,000 of a circulation. The circulation is now \$108,000,000 in notes and a paid up capital of \$82,000,000. The great Bank of Montreal started with a capital of \$350,000, and has now \$14,000,000, with assets of \$159,000,000—only six other banks in Europe or America having a better showing.

### POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANKS.

Canada has a post office banking system, with 1,000 offices at which deposits are taken from the 212,000 depositors, who have on interest \$62,000,000. These with the depositors in the savings department of the chartered banks have to their credit \$595,000,000—or \$100 for each depositor, which is the record mark for the whole world. At Confederation, the country of which I am writing—"The Last West"—had but one branch bank. It now has 250, of which 25 are in Winnipeg alone. "Money! Why we have it to burn, out here, and then sell the ashes at a profit," said another western enthusiast. "Why, don' cher' know," he went on, "our street Arabs use half dollars to play 'toss penny.' They have to as we don't bother enough with small change to keep it around."

### INSTANCES OF GROWTH.

Saskatoon—a coming metropolis—has already built, this first six months of 1906, more than the whole place was assessed for in 1905.

and Manly not there two months yet! Edmonton and Calgary and a dozen other cities are increasing so fast that they have to take a census once a week to see which is ahead. They are alive out there! I am told that some of the business houses will equal the greatest of the large cities of the east. Prince Albert sold a lot the other day for \$10,000 and Edmonton one for \$40,000, and Calgary yet to hear from. In nine weeks nineteen new papers have been started. And

### NEWSPAPERS ARE THE MAKERS OF THE MIGHTY WEST.

one word just here. It is the newspapers of that country which have made of that land what it is. More is due to a town paper, than is possible for one ever to know, and yet by the bright, crisp newsy appearance of the papers that come east from there, the people seem to appreciate the fact and support them well.

The C.P.R. is building 4,000 miles of new lines of telegraph, and has 2,500 men at work on seven new branches of railways, including 1,000 miles of track, and practically rebuilding the main line across the plains, and double-tracking the line between Fort William and Winnipeg.

### C. P. R.

This (C.P.R.) is a great railway, with a system unsurpassed. Surveys were begun in 1871, and the last spike driven by Lord Strathcona, November 7, 1885. In 1894 it had 25,000 employees. In ten years—to 1905—this army had increased to 35,000.

### G. T. R.

The Grand Trunk system is another of the great ones. It operates 3,154 miles of road in Canada, and many more in the States. In 1894 it had 19,000 employees—now grown to another army of 26,000, shortly to be further increased enormously.

## C. N.

Still another is the Canadian Northern, with its 2,100 miles, by last account, but growing so fast, that only a weekly report could keep pace with the track layers.

The Canadian Northern is adding \$4,000,000 worth of equipment to its western lines, including 2,100 new cars and 50 locomotives. This, not to mention the many more millions this company is spending on some twenty branch lines, covering hundreds of miles of new country.

## G. T. P.

The Grand Trunk Pacific is rushing work at Fort William and Portage la Prairie, and getting ready to cross the continent with its steel rails, opening up a New Canada, where untold millions are to be made by the wise followers along the line of that road, where cities must grow and the lands double, treble and then run up "some an hundred fold," to a point beyond which we dare not guess. This road is to be over 3,000 miles long. Collingwood Schreiber, C.M.G., chief consulting engineer to the Canadian Government, who has just returned from the west, in speaking of the ease with which the G. T. P. can be built, says, in part: "From the Rocky Mountains to the Atlantic seaboard it will show a maximum grade of four-tenths of one per cent eastward, and five-tenths of one per cent westbound. The company expects to find the grade across British Columbia to the Pacific coast quite as level. I drove 700 miles across the prairies from Portage la Prairie to Edmonton, along the proposed line. It is simply wonderful the way settlement is already going in along the route. The company have secured an excellent line across to Edmonton, which is on almost a straight line all of the way west from Winnipeg. Scarcity of labor is the great trouble." This is to-day the

one cry from every quarter. It does look as though the unemployed CANADA IS NO PLACE FOR THE MAN AFRAID TO WORK. of the world might find in this prosperous land, work a-plenty. It don't want idlers. It don't want men who are too much addicted to the coat—that must be thrown off. If you're looking for soft, easy berths, don't come to Canada. The waiting list is already a very long one, and the trowsers of the waiters are wearing very shiney, and the benches getting very smooth, and all of them full—and so are some of their occupants—out of sheer discouragement.

### 5,000 MILES OF RAILWAYS PLANNED.

5,000 miles of new railways are planned for that country, costing far up into the fabulous millions. 5,000 miles planned for one part of a country, where, in 1867 there were but 3,000 miles in the whole, and not one of those miles in that part. Wonderful! and likewise marvelous! And that too by a country whose whole population is less than one of our States (New York). The like of what Canada is doing has never been equalled by any country in the world of double or treble its population.

Now there! Is it any wonder—to the outside world—that a fellow should grow enthusiastic, to see and hear of all this going on? And yet everybody out there claims: "Why, we haven't made a start yet! We're just oiling up the wheels a bit, so that they will run smooth when we do get under way!" And yet all this is of a country, about which—ten years ago—not one in ten thousand knew a thing!

## SOME OF THE BUILDERS OF THE MIGHTY WEST.

To give the bare names of all who are today at work on the mighty West, turning a wilderness into a land of beauty and fertility, would take a directory of great size and then many names might be left out, for it does seem that every citizen of that whole country is vieing with his neighbor to do more than his part, but the men who under the wise guidance of the Dominion Premier, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, are planning the moves on that gigantic checker board, are the Hon. Frank Oliver, Minister of Interior from Edmonton, Alberta, and Minister of Agriculture, the Hon. Sydney Fisher. They, with their able Deputies, are leaving nothing undone that will forward the interest of the country and its people.

Great credit is also due Mr. W. D. Scott in special charge of Immigration under whom more have been brought, from all lands, and located all throughout the whole Dominion than through any other who has ever held that position in Canada. He is a man who seems specially fitted for the place, an indomitable worker and possessed with rare judgment seeming to know intuitively just where best to locate the various peoples who come to find congenial surroundings.

Then the able Captains who take charge of these home seekers when once they are located are the following for the various provinces : For Manitoba, Lt. Gov. His Honor Sir Daniel Hunter McMillan, and Premier the Hon R.P. Roblin. For Saskatchewan: Lt. Gov. His Honor Amadee Emanuel Forget, and Premier the Hon. Walter Scott, who has so long been at work preparing the Territory for a Province; Seat of Government, Regina. Alberta: Lt. Gov. His Honor George Hedley Vicars Bulyca, and the Hon. A.C. Rutherford, Premier. Seat of Government is at Edmonton.

For British Columbia Lt. Gov. The Hon. Sir Henri Gustave Joly de Lotbiniere, K.C.M.G., and Premier, that man of enterprise the Hon. Richard McBride. Seat of Government, Victoria. Of these and the hundreds of others of that country I shall tell you at length when once the Colonel and I reach there.

Minister of Railways, the Hon. H. R. Emmerson, has a work before him that will call into play every ounce of his New Brunswick force.

Our old Quebec friend, the Hon. S. N. Parent is contributing his part as the Chairman of the Transcontinental Railway Commission. Here is an instance of "the right man in the right place". There is possibly not an abler executive in Canada than he. It used to be a pleasure just to watch him do things down there in Quebec!

#### GOVERNOR GENERAL EARL GREY.

Canada is taking a just pride in her Governor General, Earl Grey, who does not seem to feel that he has done his whole duty to the whole people by extending social courtesies to a small and select part of them. He is extending his attentions over a wide area and wherever he goes the people feel that he is sincere and give him a hearty welcome. He has the happy faculty of always saying the right thing at the right time, and with a beauty of expression that is truly pleasing. He seems to enter into the live questions of the country and to think and plan for its good.

You at a distance who know not of the duties of a Governor General may wonder what those duties are. In a word, he is the representative of the King—the only active connection that Great Britain has in Canada.

## TO ENCOURAGE LITERATURE.

A Governor General was once asked the question : "What are the duties of your office ?" He replied at much length, and dwelt particularly upon the subject of the arts and literature of a country more especially the latter. "All possible encouragement should be given to it." A poor deluded author once seeing this, and thinking that all of them held the same kindly sentiments, and being urged by a man who has since gone to an asylum, prepared copies of his book, in fine bindings, and mailed them to each of all who had been in that country, and had said "we'll ever cherish it." Two replied. One with: "Please find enclosed," with kindly words, and the other with: "Thanks. So much obliged." The last named was the one who would "encourage literature" in the country, but even his : "Thanks. So much obliged," were so perfunctory that the author was almost driven to the unkind thing of wishing that "the man" had gone to the asylum sooner—gone before advising the doing of a foolish thing.

The author had to conclude that his book did not come under the head of "literature". Guess he was right—it only talked about the people and the homes of those whom the great ones had once known. It reminded him of another author who once mailed thirteen books to men in as many States—mailed them with : "If satisfactory ———, if not return to———". He never after heard but from one of them, "but then", as I often used to hear him say, "that one made up for all the others, for he lived in my home State"—same with this author who sent his books to the "encouragers of literature". The one who showed appreciation had been the wife of that Governor whom the author had ever heard spoken of in such loving terms that he too felt a personal loss when death called him away. Her kind appreciation made up for the silence of the others.

Did you ever think how little it takes to gain or lose the good opinion of your fellows? So little indeed that I wonder that even the great should not sometime give it thought. Some do, and on all sides is heard that which leads one to think that Canada is most fortunate in having men of the highest rank whose every thought is how they can serve and please those whose star hangs on the low horizon, and the many kind instances coming back from the west, where His Excellency is now visiting, marks Earl Grey as one of the number. We hear of his riding miles to see men who had served under him, years ago.

He is great who never forgets to do a kind act, to one below his own station in life.

### "WHY DO AMERICANS COME OVER INTO CANADA TO TAKE UP LAND?"

The above question is one so frequently asked that the query must be an honest inquiry. To one living in the States and with the erroneous notions about Canada that prevails among those who know nothing of the wonderful advantages offered by this country, it does seem that the one making the change is doing an unwise thing, but to the men who make the change it is very simple indeed. Take for

illustration the farmer of our Northwest. He is usually one who has a farm grown valuable by long years of cultivation. He wishes more land, either for himself or mayhap for his children, but when he tries to purchase he finds it hard to get and like his own has become so valuable that he can buy but a small acreage with the money in hand. He has heard that Canada, not grown wise by long experience like have the States, is giving away vast areas which he knows full well must become immensely valuable just as soon as cultivation has brought from the soil the wheat whose reputation he has heard so much about.

### SELLS A LITTLE AND GETS MUCH.

He sells his own land at a big price and with the money comes across the line, and not only takes up land, himself, but his sons become land owners. Not having to pay anything for the large area, he can use the money received for the old farm "down home", in seeding down the three or mayhap four Canadian Homesteads, and bless you, the first thing he knows he is rich, as two or three of those good Northwest crops make whole families rich. He finds out that he hasn't made but one change, and that is a few acres for a good big slice of a good big country.

### WHY LAWS ARE BETTER ADMINISTERED.

In the laws he don't notice any difference save that they are better administered by reason of the judges being in as long as they behave themselves, and not dependent—as with us—upon the whims of the local voter, whose good will he is too liable to cater to. Didn't know that, eh? Yes, the judges up here use their own judgment and don't have to wonder what "Mic" or "Jem" do be thinkin' about it. That's where we are lame and real justice will never be administered until we put in good men and make them free from the "heel-er" whose bidding the judge too often follows.

The difference in the administration of the laws is so marked that I cannot but note it in passing, and that entirely to our disadvantage. Where ten murders are there committed, one may be committed here, and that one is met with real justice. Result, crime is the exception, and meted justice the rule.

### "OLD GLORY," AND NO HYSTERICS!

He finds out that if he choose to fly "Old Glory" on his holiday—or any old day he may wish to fly it—there isn't some half-baked patriot going into hysterics over the matter and demanding that he pull it down. Didn't know that either, eh? Why, in some parts of that country, on July Fourth, I'm told, you couldn't tell Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta or B. C. from Ohio, unless by the greater number of American flags! Is that news to you? So I thought. Now this is why our people find Canada a congenial country and lots of our farmers are finding it out. Are the above reasons an answer to the question? Answer, you! "What?" Oh yes, I know it! I'll be called to account for this, and accused of lack of loyalty. Not so. It's loyalty that makes me so enthusiastic. I do so much appreciate the kindness shown to my countrymen, that I cannot but think well of these people for its continued manifestation.

### CAN'T GET A DIVORCE IF THE OLD MAN SNORES.

There is still another difference he will find in the change. His wife can't get a divorce on the ground that his snoring disturbs her rest, nor can he divorce her if she fry eggs too "done." No, can't get a divorce up here "while you wait," and in most cases you have to go down to the States to get it all. I sometimes think that these people of Canada do not believe in divorce. It looks that way! No,

it's not at all popular, like with us, where lawyers live by breaking ties, and where "heeler" supported judges grind them out as they would sentence common "drunks."

## WOULD ACCEPT THE GOOD AND DISCARD THE BAD. DIVORCE LAWS NATIONAL.

Like all who would have things changed, I would see our divorce laws made national, and not governed by state lines. Common sense and not the little lawyer hunting for a fee should govern, but so long as our lawyers fill our legislative halls and make our laws they are going to make them for their own interest and not for any care for the good of our people—but there, I'll not cry out at conditions. I haven't time to try to change things. I shall, however, point out the things in which Canada is ahead of the States in the hope that my people may accept the good and discard the bad.

## PUT IN JUDGES FOR THEIR WISDOM AND NOT FOR THEIR PULL, AND THEN KEEP THEM IN.)

We should follow Canada in the appointment of her judges. As above mentioned they are here in for life or good behaviour. The system works well and more justice is meted out than with us. In our country the judges may be very severe in trifles and most lenient in great matters. In one of my books I instanced two cases in the same county: The County-Treasurer—pillar of the biggest church in the city—stole \$90,000 and was sent up for a year. The other case was where a young man stole \$13 and got a ten years' sentence. (He wasn't a "Pillar".) Both are authentic, and if I were not so loyal to the good name of my state, I'd tell you that they were tried in Ohio.

## LOOK OUT, RUBE AND THE COLONEL ARE COMING!

The Colonel and I are going out to see for ourselves. It is our purpose to look over every nook and corner of that country from Winnipeg to the farthest coast. Miss Canada has kindly offered to show to us all of her vast possessions of Plain and Mountain, her manufactories, her millions of acres of wheat and pasture lands, her cities, her railways, her glaciers and lakes of marvelous beauty, rivers that water her Empire, her jewels, and all within the boundaries of her mighty realm. We want all of you to enjoy this outing with us. It's not going to be a prosey trip, which you who have followed us with "The Yankee In Quebec," "The Wandering Yankee," or any of our many other Canadian "Journeys" know. We're going to tell you just what you want to know of that land—where to find the Gold Mines of investment for the capitalist, and the scenery for the tourist—the Colonel with his camera to "take" the beauty spots, and mayhap Lou Skuce may go along for the cartoon work. It is our purpose to keep the printers busy supplying you all even though it take up to a million copies of the various books to do it. How can this be done? That's for you to answer. We purpose sending the books at such a minimum of cost that the child with a few pennies can become a member of our family—as we look upon our readers. It's the number of the readers that we want, so keep in touch with our plans and you will not regret your interest in our Journeys.

## THOSE WONDERFUL B.C. BOYS.

I say "wonderful" because I don't know what other word to use. Even that will give but a faint conception of the phenomenal marksmanship of the boys who came to Ottawa from British Columbia to attend the Dominion Rifle Association's annual shooting. They were representatives of the 5th Canadian Artillery of Victoria, and the 6th Duke of Connaught's Own Rifles, of Vancouver.

Marksmen were gathered here from every Province in the Dominion. The B.C.'s came in quietly—no flourish of banners or sounding of trumpets, but they got busy and if what they did has ever been equalled, my ignorance of military records must be my only excuse for not knowing about it. This being but a postscript of my booklet—the rest is all in type—I cannot but briefly note a few of the things that so surprised us all. A team of eight men from the two regiments won first the "London Merchants Trophy" and the team of five men from the 5th C.A. (and by the way only the five were here from Victoria) won the Kirkpatrick Trophy, the Lansdowne Cup, the Aylmer-Gard Trophy; were second in the Gillespie and also second in the Borden prize. Three of them (Brayshaw, Caven and Carr) were of the eight who won the "London Merchants". In fact they struck such a lead of winning that if the Colonel of their home regiment had not hurriedly telegraphed them to: "Leave the Ranges for next year", it's hard to tell if they would have left anything to remind us of the "meet of 1906".

I'm going to be real honest and say that I did sort o' hope that the Ottawa Boys would keep the Trophy which it gave me great pleasure to have the Committee so graciously accept as the first gift of the kind from an American citizen. I had so hoped as I've become sort of a "Barnacle"—much attached to the city and especially so to the Military part of it, but when I met those wide awake boys from the coast Province, I whispered to myself: "If it's got to go, these are they whom I hope will win it," and "they" just up and took it hands down. Then I yelled "Hurrah," with a big "H," and the echo of the yell will ever reverberate throughout "The Last West."

The following are the winners of the "Aylmer-Gard":

C.S.M.—John Caven—Sgt. George S. Carr—Sgt. Alex. Brayshaw (Who headed the marksmen for the Bisley Team, with 321 points), Hosp. Sgt. Fred'k. Richardson, and Corp. Robert Butler.

The eight winners of the "London Merchants", were the first three in the above and these from the 6th: Capt. Hart McHarg, Capt. W. H. Forrest, Lieut. G.A. Poult, Lieut. T. Cunningham, and Col. Sgt. J. Moscroft.

Hospital Sgt. F. Richardson was Coach of the 5th and Capt. J. Duff Stuart, Team Captain of the 6th.

Everybody seemed to be delighted with, not only the boys from B.C., but with every man from the whole western country. "They're Alive", was the universal acclaim, and it has gone far to make both the "Colonel" and myself delighted to feel that our lot shall shortly be cast among so genial a lot of people.

Had I the space I should like to speak of the manner in which the D.R.A. Meet was conducted. As Colonel Tilton, the Chairman of the Committee, under which it was conducted, said, on the closing day:

"Not a single thing has occurred to mar the absolute success of the Meet of 1906". And I cannot but add that this Committee did everything in their power to make that Success. I must here say that their manner throughout has gone far toward making me love Canada even more than I did—if such a thing be possible.

Minister of Inland Revenue, The Hon. W. Templeman, owner of the Times of Victoria, was here with the Boys, and added a long list of new friends.

That Prince of good fellows, Captain W. C. Armstrong, of Calgary, was in charge of the Alberta Boys. Would that I might here include all worthy of mention from that land where they do things, but to do so would be to give the name of every man who came to honor Ottawa with his presence.







# **GROUP AT D.R.A. AT THE CLOSE OF THE ANNUAL MEET OF 1906**

Winners of the Aylmer-Gard Trophy: Lower Row, left to right: Corp. Robt. J. Butler, C. S. M. John Caven, Sgt. Alex. Brayshaw, Sgt. Geo. S. Carr; Hosp. Sgt. Fred'k Richardson (is seen immediately above the trophy); Major Charles F. Winter, Sec'y of D. R. A. is seen at end of lower row.

Centre row: Capt. J. R. Wynne, Winnipeg, the Hon. W. Templeman, Victoria, B.C., Lord Aylmer, Anson A. Gard, Col. F. S. Mackey, Montreal, Col. John Tilton, Chairman D.R.A. Top row: Capt. H. H. O. Gray, Major J. H. McRobbie, St. John, N.B., Col. H. Allan Bate, Col. A. Percy Sherwood, Major E. W. B. Morrison, (the three last named are the Trustees of the Trophy) Col. Robt. Brown, Ex-Mayor Fred'k Cook, of London Times, Sgt. John Deslauriers, Major Ed. Montgomery, Toronto.

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